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ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING GRANT APPROVED BY P.W.A.

Funds Provided For Attractive New Home for Chamber of Commerce, Adjoining Civic Auditorium

Formal approval of a \$4950 federal grant for the construction of the proposed new administration building adjoining the civic auditorium was received this week from officials of the Public Works Administration.

The Herald also learned from sources, usually reliable, that a similar PWA grant for the proposed new fire hall on Cravens avenue was scheduled for approval by Washington authorities next week.

First word of the favorable action on the Torrance application came in a telegram to Mayor Stanger from Senator McAdoo's office in Washington, which was later confirmed by a letter from the PWA office in Los Angeles.

The news came as a surprise to city officials as press reports from Washington early in September indicated that President Roosevelt intended to divert the funds provided for public building projects to the relief of farmers in the drought area.

Cost of the administration building and the smaller structure in the rear to be used for storing equipment of the civic auditorium was set up in the PWA estimate at \$11,000, but may not run this high.

C. C. M. O. Erects Storage Building

Permit in the sum of \$10,000 was taken out this week by the C. C. M. O. Company for the erection of a storage building on their property in the west part of the city.

H. B. Morgan, of the Two Macks Electric, took out a permit for a garage with storage rooms above to be built at 2119 Arlington avenue at a cost of \$800.

Mrs. Anna Sanderson, North Torrance, will erect a small dwelling on her lot at 2040 Redondo boulevard, costing \$700.

Proposed New Building For Torrance Chamber of Commerce



Here is the architects' sketch of the attractive new administration building for which the PWA has agreed to donate \$4950. The structure is planned to adjoin the civic auditorium on El Prado.

To the rear of this building will be a smaller structure, 40x22, to be used principally for storage of auditorium equipment.

MERCHANTS' MEETING BREAKS ALL RECORDS



—Photo by Haig & Haig

Torrance business men (and business women) turned out in record shattering numbers last Tuesday night at a dinner meeting held in the banquet room of Cooky's Club Cafe, as shown in the picture above.

chants' organization, as well as join in discussion of plans to decorate the city this Christmas.

M. STRASZER RETURNING TO HERALD STAFF

A More Newsy Paper is Aim of Publisher in Expanding Staff

Return of Michael Straszer to the post of city editor of the Torrance Herald and Lomita News is announced by Grover C. Whyte, editor and publisher.

During the past four years Straszer has been editor of the Corona Daily Independent in Riverside county.

He attended the University of Montana and completed his studies in the journalism department of the University of Washington.

Mrs. Straszer Former Teacher Mrs. Straszer will be remembered by many local residents as a kindergarten teacher at the Torrance Elementary School from 1930 to the end of the 1931-32 term.

Moving to Torrance Mr. and Mrs. Straszer and family will move to Torrance this Saturday making their home at 2562 Torrance boulevard.

Better Newspaper The staff at the Herald is equally glad to welcome back its former city editor who was always popular among his fellow workers.

RETURNS FROM EAST O. W. Stone, 1230 Cravens avenue, who has been visiting in the east for several months, arrived home last week.

Merchants' Group

Organize Association and Elect Permanent Officers and Directors

The Torrance Business Men's Association got off to an enthusiastic start last Tuesday night when 51 local merchants and business men and women gathered at Cooky's Club Cafe to elect officers for a permanent organization, and to discuss plans for Christmas street decorations.

CITY EDITOR



MICHAEL STRASZER who says he is happy to come back to the Torrance Herald after four years at Corona.

Derrick Company Has Nice Order

The International Derrick and Equipment Company of Torrance is engaged this week in erecting the steel radio towers for radio station KEHE, at 2901 Moynier Lane, near Culver City, according to Los Angeles city building inspector's records.

Cost of the steel towers will be \$11,000.

The station is owned by an afternoon Los Angeles newspaper, and is to be in operation next month.

Dark Mystery In Theft of Pig

How a white pig, weight 145 pounds, could be slaughtered in its pen Sunday night without arousing the household with its death scream is a mystery to F. B. Wagner, 2005 116th street, North Torrance.

Alden Smith, jeweler and optometrist, was the only candidate for president and was unanimously elected. Dean Sears, manager of the Torrance branch of the Bank of America, was in like manner chosen secretary-treasurer.

Before the election of officers took place Dean Sears, who acted as chairman of the previous temporary committee, made a financial report of the last merchants' activity, the Silver Anniversary Festival, held last September.

Many Thanked Al Robinson acted as speaker and in behalf of the committee thanked the Chamber of Commerce, the city council, and the Torrance Herald for their cooperation in making the Festival a success.

Functions Soon The newly elected officers plan a meeting next week at which time plans for Christmas will be discussed.

Close Armistice After some discussion, J. G. Koch moved that the merchants remain closed all day Armistice Day, November 11.

Smith For President Good feeling was everywhere evidenced and the high spot of the evening's humor came when J. C. "Landon" Smith, when introducing himself (as everyone did), was asked by Speaker Robinson to give his political connections.

Highway Jobs Highway bids opened in September for which contracts were awarded by the state highway commission include three to the local concern, Basch Bros. The jobs are located in Inyo county and total \$96,488.50.

MRS. T. WERTZ SICK 3 YEARS PASSES TODAY

Host of Friends Mourn the Passing of Pioneer Resident

Hosts of friends in Torrance will learn with sorrow of the passing of Mrs. Mary Martin Wertz, 56, who died shortly after 7 o'clock this morning.

This summer Mrs. Wertz improved somewhat in health although she was confined to her bed most of the time and required constant attention.

In the past few weeks Mrs. Wertz has been able to go about with her family on automobile trips which she thoroughly enjoyed.

Mrs. Wertz was born in Mexico, Missouri. She came to Torrance 18 years ago, and during her years of good health was constantly active in church and social affairs.

She leaves besides her husband, Theodore Wertz, and son Robert, a foster son Hubert Luck, and two sisters, Mrs. Regina Sullivan of Pasadena, and Mrs. Margaret McOwen of Alameda.

Rosary for the departed will be held at the home, 1328 Amalapa avenue, at 7:30 p. m. Friday evening, and funeral services at the Church of the Nativity at 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

RUNKLE RESIGNS PRESIDENCY OF INTERNATIONAL DERRICK

Leaves October 31 for Ohio To Join Largest Producer of Silica Sand in Country. Successor Not Yet Chosen

Resignation of Charles G. Runkle as president of the International Derrick & Equipment Company at Torrance was announced today, to become effective October 31.

Committees of Co-ordinating Council Named

Toy Loan Drive Will be Launched to Replenish Local Supply

Meetings of the Torrance co-ordinating council will be held regularly on the fourth Monday evening each month.

Mrs. Wilkes appointed members of committees to include Mrs. Dan Barnard, Mrs. S. C. Collins, Mrs. Edna Stone and Mrs. Oscar Butterfield on the environment committee.

Following the business session Miss Irene Mills, teacher at the Torrance high school, gave an enlightening talk on the problems of youth.

Brief talks were made by representatives of the county co-ordinating council and the school board's officer in charge of truancy cases.

Harry Slover was placed in charge of a suggested drive for collection of new or used toys for the toy loan department.

Announcements of the drive will be made at the elementary schools, and in the churches and Parent Teachers Association meetings.

CORONA IN TESTIMONIAL TO HERALD'S NEW EDITOR

High tribute to Micheal Straszer who joins the Torrance Herald staff as city editor Monday morning was recently paid by the Corona Chamber of Commerce.

"At a meeting of the directors of the Corona Chamber of Commerce held on Wednesday, October 21st, I was asked, on motion, to express their regrets on hearing that you were to leave our city.

"Under your editorial guidance the Corona Independent has made many forward steps in make-up, news presentation, and in special features.

"It has been very evident that your guiding policy has been one for the continued advance of Corona from news and publicity angles, and that you have consistently dedicated your services on the paper to the progress of everything worthwhile.

"We regret that we must lose the services of a friend, but may we wish you every success in your new field?"